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OBITUARY.

WE regret to record the death, on the 21st November last, of Mr. James Marshall, actuary of the Jamaica Mutual Life Assurance Company. In vol. iv., p. 39, of this *Magazine*, will be found an interesting notice by Mr. Marshall on the mortality of Europeans residing in Jamaica, with tables recommended by him to be used for the purposes of life assurance in the island. The original observations on the subject are however of little value at present, and Mr. Marshall was engaged in collecting more authentic data. With this view he had recently published an elaborate work; and we are sorry to hear, by a letter from his friend Dr. Dunn to Mr. A. G. Finlaison, that his "his decease must be mainly attributable to his excessive application and labour in getting up his work." He adds, "I frequently cautioned him that when the excitement was over a reaction would take place, and I regret to say it has done so fatally. His disease was *angina pectoris*, symptoms of which must have presented themselves some time back; but I suppose his mind was so preoccupied with his publication that he paid no attention to them. . . . Mr. Marshall's outlay in getting up his work has been at least £200 and upwards." He is said to have left a widow and nine children (almost all very young), in very indifferent circumstances.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES.

AT the examinations for the present year, eighteen candidates have presented themselves; nine for the first or matriculation examination, two for the second, and seven for the third. We are happy to say that the degrees of proficiency exhibited were very satisfactory. The names of the candidates and the order of merit will appear in the next Number of the *Journal*; meanwhile we publish, for the benefit of those who may have hereafter to undergo the ordeal, the questions for the third year, which it will be remembered complete the course.

THIRD YEAR'S EXAMINATION.

1. Having such data as the registers of an Assurance Company afford, describe the method of determining the relative numbers of living and dying at each year of age, and of expressing the resulting annual mortality.

2. Describe briefly the methods adopted by Messrs. Milne, Davies, and Gompertz, for graduating actual rates of mortality for the purposes of tabulation.

3. What may be considered the comparative advantages and disadvantages of these methods?

4. What are the effects upon a table of annual premiums for single and joint lives, of assuming a low rate of interest without marginal addition, and of a high rate with a marginal addition, made in a constant geometrical or arithmetical proportion?

5. Illustrate the effects resulting from the use of tables so constructed in making valuations.

6. Explain the terms "partnership *en commandite*" and "limited liability," and compare the positions of a partner *en commandite* and a partner in a Company constituted under the Limited Liability Act, 1855.

7. What Companies are excluded from the operation of that Act, and what were the probable reasons for so excluding them?

8. To what extent can deeds of settlement limit the liability of the copartners? Explain the mode in which, in effect, limited liability is obtained by the shareholders in Assurance Companies.

9. State the position of a Company in an interpleader suit.

10. Against whom is the action upon a policy to be brought in the following cases:—When granted by a Corporation established prior to the Joint Stock Companies Registration Act; when by a Company completely registered thereunder; when by an unincorporated Company, and the policy is under seal; and when by a similar Company, and it is not under seal?

11. What are the leading divisions of statistical data, as at present afforded by Government Returns, in this and other countries?

12. Describe the general arrangement and collection of data for the taking of a census.

13. What are the general indications that distinguish accurate from inaccurate statistical returns?

14. What would be the main features to be comprised in statistical abstracts from an agricultural as compared with a manufacturing county, with respect to health and longevity?

15. What form of returns would be the best adapted to rapidly illustrate the vital statistics of a new colony?

16. What is the annual revenue of Great Britain at this time, and how is it derived?

17. How much of it is required for payment of the national creditors?

18. What is the nature and amount of the unfunded debt?

19. In what respect does direct taxation differ from indirect?

20. In what way does increased taxation affect consumption?

21. What are the advantages of a metallic currency, and in what way is it connected with the rates of foreign exchange?

22. How could a paper one be substituted in this country, and what would be likely to result from such a substitution?

23. How is our present paper circulation supplied, and what are the limits of it?

24. State in what respects, if any, the constitution of the Bank of England differs from that of other Joint Stock Banks.

25. How do you conceive the fluctuations in the rate of interest to arise?

26. What effect is an increase in the rate supposed to have on the currency?

27. Define the term "balance sheet," and explain what it is intended to show.

28. What is an appropriate designation for the account to which the receipts and expenses of an Assurance Company are carried?

29. What are the principles upon which an audit should be conducted?

30. What course would you suggest for obtaining an insight into the affairs of a Company, at the least cost of time and labour?